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26 September 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Representative George P. Miller (D., Calif.),  
Chairman, House Science & Astronautics Committee

1. Mr. David Brandwein, Director, FMSAC, accompanied by the undersigned, met with Chairman Miller in his office and briefed him on the matters set forth below. This meeting was in response to the Chairman's request of a week ago that he be kept up-to-date on Soviet space matters of interest to him. Mr. Brandwein covered the serious difficulties the Soviets have been having in getting reliable performance from their two largest and newest space booster programs, and in particular a catastrophic launch failure on 3 July.

2. Chairman Miller was very interested in the possible reasons for the current series of difficulties in these Soviet programs and speculated with Mr. Brandwein that the future may hold continuing difficulties for them if the real source of trouble is poor quality control in the translation of theoretical designs into dependable but sophisticated hardware.

3. Chairman Miller had very few questions other than clarifying ones relating to details of various vehicle capabilities or possible mission objectives. He was quite interested in the geography of the Tyuratam area. As an aside he provided some interesting details on the U.N. negotiations for exchange of weather information with the Soviet Union.

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4. At the conclusion of the briefing Chairman Miller was very complimentary in his remarks and indicated that he would appreciate a similar briefing for certain of the senior members of the Committee. He will contact Representative Olin Teague (D., Texas) and arrange through him for Representatives Joseph Karth (D., Minn.), Ken Hechler (D., W. Va.), Charles Mosher (R., Ohio), James Fulton (R., Pa.), and "other solid citizens" of the Committee to meet with us.

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Assistant Legislative Counsel

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